

a Presidential finding to Congress no later than February 1, detailing whether or not the spending restrictions imposed on family planning overseas are having a negative impact on the proper functioning of those programs.

The Presidential finding is to be included in a joint House-Senate resolution on which both bodies must vote by February 28. If both the House and Senate approve the finding, international family planning funds will be released on March 1 rather than the current July 1 release date of funds that have already been appropriated.

I commend to my colleagues' attention the following column written by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton in which she portrays the situation of real women's lives and the urgent need for family planning.

TALKING IT OVER

(By Hillary Rodham Clinton)

The pregnant woman wore an alpaca shawl over her blouse and full skirt, the traditional Indian dress in Bolivia. She looked about 36 and was attending a prenatal class at a health clinic I visited this week in the Bolivian capital, La Paz. She was nursing a 3-month-old baby and expecting her eighth child, who she hoped would be her last.

I was in Bolivia to attend the Sixth Conference of Wives of Heads of State and Government of the Americas. Women from countries throughout the Western Hemisphere got together to talk about strategies to eliminate measles, promote education reform and improve maternal health in our region.

Bolivia, a country of majestic beauty in the heart of South America, was an auspicious location for such a discussion. More women die in Bolivia during pregnancy and childbirth than in any other country in South America. But in the face of this human tragedy, Bolivia has become a model of how one nation can respond to the crisis of maternal mortality by galvanizing the government, non-governmental organizations and the medical establishment to launch a nationwide family-planning campaign.

In a country where half of all expecting mothers go through pregnancy and childbirth alone—without medical attention of any kind—Bolivia's aggressive effort to educate women about their own health and their options for childbearing is resulting in safer pregnancies, stronger families and fewer abortions. Without access to family planning, women in Bolivia—and in many developing nations—often turn in desperation to illegal, unsafe abortions that can end in death or serious injury. Deaths from abortion complications account for half of all maternal deaths in Bolivia.

As Bolivia has ably demonstrated, voluntary family planning teaches women about the benefits of spacing children several years apart, breast-feeding, good nutrition, prenatal and postpartum visits and safe deliveries. It also decreases the number of abortions.

Bolivia's success at preventing mothers from dying and lowering abortion rates has been possible, in part, because of help from the United States and other countries. The U.S. Agency for International Development has provided financial and technical assistance to help Bolivia establish a network of primary health care clinics.

The clinic I visited in La Paz is one that the United States helped start. Called PROSALUD (which, loosely translated, means "for the good of health" in Spanish), the clinic has doctors and nurses who offer round-the-clock prenatal, obstetric and pediatric services, as well as counseling about

family planning in a poor neighborhood of 15,000 people. In the first six months of this year, the clinic staff provided 2,200 medical consultations, delivered 200 babies, registered 700 new family-planning users and immunized 2,500 children.

There are obvious benefits of such a program to Bolivian women, children and families, but health and family-planning services also help alleviate poverty and contribute to the economic stability of a democratic ally in our hemisphere. Yet opponents of foreign assistance and particularly of family planning in Congress are trying to eviscerate U.S. funding for programs like the one I saw at PROSALUD. Some argue that the United States has no national interest in the health and well-being of other countries' citizens. Others mistakenly suggest that family planning is being used to encourage—rather than decrease—abortions. In fact, our government has prohibited funding of any overseas project that promotes abortion since 1973.

Ignoring this, Congress last year approved draconian cuts in family-planning assistance amounting to a 35-percent reduction in funds. To add insult to injury, the cuts were accompanied by new restrictions that delayed delivery of aid for the first nine months of the fiscal year.

Similar harsh cuts and delays are included in the current budget, meaning that many organizations could again be denied assistance for months and then receive it only in monthly installments.

According to a recent analysis by five population organizations, the funding cuts alone will result in an increase of 1.6 million abortions, more than 8,000 maternal deaths, and 134,000 infant deaths in developing countries.

Family-planning campaigns at work in Elclvia and elsewhere represent sensible, cost-effective and long-term strategies for improving women's health, strengthening families and lowering the rate of abortion. My husband's administration remains committed to the continuation of these investments. And I will do everything I can to ensure that U.S. support for these initiatives continues. If you share my concern, I hope you will add your votes to mine and give all women everywhere the same opportunities for their lives we take for granted in ours.

TRIBUTE FOR JAMES M. MURPHY

HON. JAMES M. TALENT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 4, 1997

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Mr. James M. Murphy. Mr. Murphy has been recognized as the 1996 Outstanding Businessperson of the Year by the Creve Coeur-Olivette Chamber of Commerce. This award highlights his continuing efforts not only with the chamber, but with the entire St. Louis construction and business community. It is indeed an honor to recognize his hard work and efforts as an outstanding leader and citizen.

The following proclamation was presented to Mr. Murphy by the Creve Coeur-Olivette Chamber of Commerce, in recognition of his outstanding accomplishments.

Whereas Jim Murphy, president of Murphy Company Mechanical Contractors and Engineers, has served as the president of the Olivette Economic Development Commission, and

Whereas his leadership of the Commission has contributed to the economic stability of

Olivette, and created economic growth for the City of Olivette, and

Whereas he has achieved unprecedented national success for his company in the construction and business communities, and

Whereas he has served the St. Louis business community through leadership and dedication, and

Whereas he has unselfishly devoted both time and effort to the health and welfare of the St. Louis community by supporting charitable, civic and business organizations, and

Whereas he has demonstrated the highest ethical values in the conduct of his business and personal life, and

Whereas his support of educational excellence has contributed to providing unlimited opportunity for future business and community leaders. Therefore be it

Resolved, That James J. Murphy, Jr., be honored by the membership of the Creve Coeur-Olivette Chamber of Commerce as the 1996 Outstanding Businessperson of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, I join the chamber and the St. Louis business community, in honoring Mr. Murphy for his continuing service to our community. His efforts are an inspiration to us all.

A TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE MARY E. McDEVITT

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 4, 1997

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Honorable Judge Mary E. McDevitt on the occasion of her retirement from the 39th district court in Roseville, MI. It will be my pleasure to enter this statement into the official CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in February when the 105th Congress convenes.

Over the years, Judge McDevitt has enjoyed a fine reputation as a distinguished jurist in our community and throughout the State of Michigan. She has demonstrated her legal expertise both as a Justice of the Peace in Erin Township and in Roseville where she has served as district judge for 39 years.

Judge McDevitt also served as a probation officer and investigator for adoptive and boarding home parents as the Macomb County Probate Court, Juvenile Division. She has been affiliated with many professional organizations, such as the American Bar Association, and has generously volunteered her time for civic activities.

Mr. Speaker, on the special occasion of her retirement after 39 years on the bench, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending best wishes to Judge McDevitt and her entire family. Her dedication and commitment will be greatly missed.

TRIBUTE TO JIM KELLY

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 4, 1997

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Jim Kelly on the occasion of his retirement as quarterback for the Buffalo Bills.

Throughout its celebrated history, the Buffalo Bills have never enjoyed the tremendous